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HORSE TRAINING

A SYSTEM

—OF—

HORSE TRAINING

—AN—

IMPROVEMENT ON THE RAREY METHOD

By JOHN GRACE

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PREFACE.

The author of this work presents a new system for training unbroken, badly broken, and vicious horses. It embraces a theory and practice, the results of an experience of twenty-five years in California in training horses for the saddle and harness; and is offered as a valuable assistant to those who feel an interest in the proper education of this noble servant of man—the Horse.

The author also feels it a duty he owes to those who try this system, to lay before them some improved appliances—the results of a long practice and study.

JOHN GRACE.

The Grace system of Horse Training.—An Improvement on the Rarey Method.

Common-sense Method of Training a Vicious or Badly-Trained Horse.

See that the enclosure in which you intend to operate upon the horse is unoccupied by any thing which might distract his attention,—either persons, animals or fowls,—and that he is placed therein as quietly as possible.

First, place a halter over his neck and halter-break him.

As this operation is often dangerous to both horse and trainer, first provide against accident to yourself; second, secure your horse against the possibility of injury; and, third, accomplish the object in the quickest time possible, to render the lesson a permanent one.

Having these rules in view, proceed as follows:

Prepare a stick about one inch in diameter and about ten feet long, with two wooden pins run through it—one about an inch from one end, the other seven inches therefrom and extending through two inches on either side. Hang the running noose of a common rope halter, twelve feet in length, upon the small pins and hold the other end in the hand.

Now to place the halter over the horse's head advantage must be taken of his natural curiosity by extending the hanging noose toward him; he may be alarmed at first, but if it is gently moved, the horse will soon reach his nose toward it and quite likely touch it. When he begins to smell the halter hold the stick pretty well up over his head, and while the animal's attention is attracted by the swinging noose gently pass it over

his ears, and turning the stick half around drop the rope from the pins upon his neck. This will cause the horse to start back, but by holding firmly upon the halter, the noose will be drawn fast.

Now lay the stick aside, and proceed to teach him the use of the halter. Take a position about opposite the shoulder, still keeping off at a distance, give him a sharp pull toward you, sufficient to move him, immediately slackening the pull. The object in doing this is to cause the animal to feel your power to move him, and by slackening the pull you do not give him time to resist, which, if the pull should be steady, he will do even to the extent of throwing himself down, a matter to be always avoided. This should be repeated a number of times, until the disposition to resist seems to grow weaker. You will then perform the operation upon the other side, and alternately from side to side (always avoiding a forward pull), and continue the short pulls until the horse either moves readily or becomes stubborn. The reason for working upon both sides is, that in this, as well as in all other matters which you attempt to instruct the horse, there are two sides to teach. What he learns to do from one side he must learn on the other side, in order to have a complete understanding of what is required of him. The reason for avoiding a forward pull is, that you can not easily move the horse in that direction; and as he learns from your acts, you should not attempt to do anything which you are not reasonably sure of succeeding in.

If the horse appears to be of a yielding disposition, you will now gradually shorten your hold upon the halter, as you pull from side to side, being watchful to avoid the possibility of his striking or kicking you, when you come within reach of his head, gently put forth your hand and allow him to examine it with his nose—for in this way all horses test the danger or harmlessness of strange objects.

As he becomes accustomed to your presence, proceed to carefully caress him with the hand, gently touching his face and

forehead, gradually extending the hand down his nose, farther and farther until he becomes calm. Then quietly tie a knot through the noose, so that it can not slip, leaving it quite loose. Up to this point no undue resistance on his part has been called out.

When it can safely be done *change the rope to a strap halter.* Repeat the pulling operation, being careful to get a side pull. As you pass in front approach and caress him, encouraging him to step off willingly without the pull. Should the horse be stubborn and refuse to move take hold of the *halter-strap with your left hand about a foot from the head and move the right hand gently down his rump, seize the tail, and give him a few sharp turns around, pulling the head towards you.* To start him and give celerity to his movement administer an occasional blow with the top of your foot across the buttock. *(See Figure 1.)*

In what way turning the horse in the manner described affects his will and disposition I leave professors of science to determine and pronounce. I well know from long experience the effect is magical and permanent.

That this method of affecting the disposition of the horse is a great improvement upon the Rarey system becomes evident on reflection. For by the one method the horse with his fore legs hampered exhausts himself by violent and prolonged plunges often lasting over an hour and becomes passive simply because he is exhausted. By my method the will of the horse is taken possession of and his disposition changed by a few moderate efforts of his trainer lasting a few seconds each. The apparent difficulty of turning a horse in this way, vanishes upon trial. But a mere novice in training having a big horse on his hands should proceed to bit the horse and then adopt the plans described on page 17. *This turning movement is the basis of my system and has the most wonderful effect in securing submission.*

Having given the horse a few turns then proceed with

pulling as before. If the horse remains stubborn, repeat the operation of turning him twice or three times. By this time he will probably appear to brighten up and show signs of being willing to step as you wish him. If he should not, take a riding whip in your right hand, holding the halter-strap with the left, and standing by his side, hold the whip over his back and touch him gently on the off-side hip, at the same moment giving a gentle side pull upon the halter. *(See Figure 2.)* If this starts him, caress him and then repeat the operation. If he does not start nor show signs of moving, caress him, give him a kind look and word, and leave him a few moments before proceeding, allowing him to get quiet if he is angered or frightened. *By kindness and patience alone is he to be assured that no injury is intended.*

So soon as he is quiet proceed again as before. As soon as he steps readily at a slight side pull throw the halter-strap over the neck, and let him go for half an hour. This will be the first lesson.

Repeat this lesson, and as soon as he becomes perfectly accustomed to obey the side pull, commence teaching him to obey the forward pull, by gently pulling him straight ahead. If he leads, no matter how little, caress him and repeat, but be careful and not pull too hard. If he does not move with a reasonable pull, give him two or three of the short side pulls and try again. Be sure not to give a determined pull in front, for it will not succeed, and will only teach the horse your weakness, and by inflicting pain upon him teach him to pull at the halter—*his natural movement being in a direction opposite that which causes him pain.*

To Hitch an Unbroken Horse in the Stall.

A common one-horse stall should be prepared, by having a hole bored in each side of the rear end post of the stall, to put a pole through, or staples driven in to tie a rope or strap across at about the height where the breeching would come on the

horse if harnessed. Lead him in to the stall and put up the pole or strap before he is tied. The rear obstruction is to prevent him from backing so far as to pull on the halter, hurting his head with the halter, and pulling harder to avoid the hurt. In removing him from the stall, be sure and untie the halter before loosing the obstruction in the rear, and for the first few days be careful not to hitch the horse where he can have a chance to pull.

By observing these rules for a few days there is no danger that the horse will ever become a halter puller. Bear in mind that during the entire process of handling the horse it is most necessary to speak to him in a mild manner, to quiet his fears and familiarize him with your voice. Never speak sharp or loud, but gently and firmly.

For instance, in the side pulls, say: "COME HERE, SIR;" this kept up continually will eventually teach the horse to come to you on being spoken to in these words.

TO GET THE HORSE USED TO THE BIT.

Place on the horse an ordinary head-stall with joint bit, without check strap or reins. Frequently replace it, allowing it to remain on only a short time. By this means he becomes used to the bit and to bitting. This is better than the way so often adopted of putting on the bitting bridle at once. In a day or two the horse is ready for the bitting bridle.

Prepare a well-padded leather girth with three iron loops firmly riveted thereon—one at the center on the back, and one on each side. A crupper should be attached to this girth, the crotch strap of which should be about six inches long and its entire length about twelve inches. One end of the slip strap should be buckled to the crupper, the other end to a two-inch ring, lying flat upon the haunch. To this latter ring is buckled a strap which runs along the back through the iron loop on top of the girth, and has an upright ring on the end, to which is to be attached the check rein. This strap is double,

so that its length may be altered to meet the check rein. To the crupper ring on the haunch attach two short straps (one on each side of the back-strap referred to) about eight inches long, with a buckle on each end. Use a common head-stall with gag runners of leather, placed well up toward the ears and with a large joint bit; the throat latch to be made large and buckle under the gag runners; the side straps to be made about five feet long, with a snap on one end and holes for the buckle tongue on the other end. These straps are to be fastened by the snap to the bit and then passed through the side loops on the girth, and to be buckled to the short straps fastened to the ring on the haunch. *(See Figure 3.)* Having this harness ready, then proceed to

Bitting the Horse,

taking care not to buckle any of the straps too tight at first, so as not to give pain or even annoy the animal. Many horses have been ruined by carelessness in this particular, especially by having the throat latch too tight. When loose they more readily yield to the side reins. The degree of checking up should be governed by the length and form of the neck and shoulders. The side straps should be buckled just sufficiently to impose restraint. As soon as the horse shows a disposition to yield, the bridle should be removed or the check or side-strap loosened, and within at least fifteen minutes from the time it was first put on. The oftener it is taken off and replaced for the first four days the better, not however removing it while the horse is sulky and refuses to move his head. The lesson to be taught him is that he cannot be loosened from the restraint while he is resisting.

This will prove useful in all further dealings with the animal.

Riding the Horse.

This should be done as soon as he is well bridle-broken. Begin the lesson in a small enclosure. Use a common riding

bridle without girth or martingale. Tie the reins together on top of the neck, tight enough to check him very little. Stand on the near side near the shoulder, and place the loop strap across the withers near where the reins lie.

Quietly reach under in front and caress the fore-legs, and as soon as he is sufficiently quiet, buckle the loop around the pastern of the off fore foot. If he is restive and prevents this or shows signs of striking or kicking, take him by the bridle and tail, the left hand well up to the head, and *whirl* him *around* three times or more *(see Figure 1)*; and while he is disconcerted by this movement fasten the strap. Then take hold of the near rein within about four inches of the head, and with the right hand draw upon the strap so as to lift the foot clear from the ground, at the same time pulling on the rein toward you quite firmly, until he has made two or three hops on three legs.

The object to be gained by this is first, to teach the horse that he is not to be hurt and that he cannot get away. This tends to prevent him from plunging when an attempt is made to ride him; second, by pulling the strap across his back it accustomes him to bear the weight there; third, it prevents him from throwing himself over backwards. Do this every few minutes for half an hour. Next take a shorter hold on the strap, draw the foot up, passing your right arm well over his back, and with the left hand take hold of the near rein and mane near the withers, and then make a motion of mounting. Do this until the horse becomes accustomed to the positions and movements. Then quietly mount him, the foot being still held up. *(See Figure 4.)*

To Mount the Horse.

Take hold of the mane with your left hand, placing the right hand upon the back, then springing lightly raise yourself upon your wrists until the waist reaches the hight of the horse's withers, lean forward and throw the right leg over his back.

This lesson with the foot-strap and of mounting should be repeated until the horse is accustomed to your presence on his back and your legs against his sides.

There is no danger that he will fall down while the foot is up, as might be supposed. When it is determined to start him forward, keep a strong hold of the foot-strap till the knot in the reins is untied, and then let down the foot, commence to turn him from side to side and urge him forward. If he is unwilling to start, use a whip, holding it in the same hand with which you hold the foot-strap, and gently touch him with it on the off hind leg, gradually increasing the blows until he starts, at the same time loosing the rains. In turning him pull upon only one rein at a time, otherwise the horse will be apt to run backward, sideways and otherwise, and act awkwardly. Ride him only a hundred yards the first time. *Be decided but gentle in mounting and in all your dealings with the horse.*

The Breaking Bridle.

This is a snaffle joint-bit with rings at each end, but no bars —the shorter the bit the better.

The bit has two loose rings upon the mouth piece. *(See Figure 5.)* Attach the bit to a common bridle in the usual manner. A strap across the nose just above the nostril, fastened through the two loose rings, draws it moderately tight. Attach a strap to the browband, bring it down to the center of the face and attach it to the strap over the nose to prevent it slipping down. Take a piece of $\frac{3}{8}$ inch rope about 8 feet in length, tie one end to the near-side ring of the bit, pass the other end under the jaw through the off-side ring of the bit, then bring the rope over the neck from the off-side to the near-side, placing it where the collar usually comes, pass it down the near-side and through over that portion of the rope which is between the two bit rings under the jaw and make fast. Now as you tighten upon the rope you perceive that the two loose

rings will come together, and will consequently press tightly upon the cheek.

The effect upon the horse is instantaneous and irresistible. This bit is safe and reliable, and will control the most vicious horse.

The Long Foot Strap

is in two parts, and that for the pastern is made of two pieces. There is first an inner strap of soft leather, an inch and a half wide, ten inches long, with the inside edges shaved thin to avoid chafing. Then an outer strap of firm leather, fifteen inches long and one inch wide, on one end of which place a buckle and loop with a lap of two inches on the under side, on the other end punch holes for the buckle tongue. The last named strap is stitched on the outside of the wider one, with one end extended an inch beyond the buckle, having the loop pretty close to the buckle. A half ring or D is run over the outer strap two inches from the buckle. This is buckled around the fore foot just below the fetlock. A strap or webbing, fifteen feet in length, fastened in the ring, completes the long foot-strap.

How to Handle the Feet of a Horse which has Never been Shod.

"After breaking the horse to lead well, caress and rub him on the shoulders as at first, and as soon as he will bear, work down the withers and leg; then lift lightly on the foot; if it is submitted to, rub it quickly and smoothly a few seconds, then put it down and take it again, and so continue until you can handle the foot as you please.

"The main point for you to consider is, that you are to make the horse understand that you will not hurt him, and to do this you must be gentle. Now place your hand on the shoulder and run it back over the side and hips softly and quickly; handle every part thoroughly as you work along towards the leg, and as the horse will bear, work the hands around the leg until you reach the foot. If there is no resist-

ance after, lift up a little, and if there is no resistance after letting it down, rub gently a little more; repeat each time, lifting it up a little higher, until you can take it up and handle it just as you please. Should he, however, resist, and jerk his foot away from you, you must resort to means to make him understand that resistance is out of the question."

Shoeing the Horse.

To prepare a horse for shoeing the first time, tie the "long foot-strap" around the neck, pass it along the near side, between the hind legs, and bringing it around the near hind leg close up to the body, pass it under the strap around the neck, then draw upon the strap, holding him meanwhile by the bridle. The horse will probably be nervous at the pull and you will loosen it and caress him over the face and neck, gradually tightening at each successive pull, using no words but gentle ones, and not saying "whoa." When he has become accustomed to it, lower the strap to a point just above the hock, and gradually pull upon the strap until you lift the leg, at the same time pulling upon the bridle with a side or back pull to prevent his stepping forward. When you have thus succeeded in easily lifting the leg pretty well up, you will find that you can take it up with your hand and hold it. The same process must of course be gone through with on the other leg, and after about ten lessons your horse is ready to go to the blacksmith. The rule has usually been to take the horse to the blacksmith first, but he is more than apt to get bad habits by being forced into position to be shod, and probably gets pounded to his injury if the blacksmith's stock of patience is not very large. Shoeing should always be done as the feet grow tender, and if quite young, shoe very often.

Horses should be shod extremly light for a few times.

Never turn out your horse to pasture without first removing his shoes.

Hints About the Horse.

In teaching the horse words, always accompany the words

with an explanatory act—something which will call his attention to the connection between the word and the act; for instance, in saying "Whoa," always pull upon the reins or foot strap. Never use words, either in or out of the stable, except for a purpose. Such words as "Stand around," "Take care," etc., are proper to be used when occasion requires, but you should not say "Whoa," when you mean "Take care," in approaching the horse; nor "Whoa, back," when you mean either one or the other. It is well known that it is difficult for a person to control himself in this particular. We therefore strongly impress its importance upon those having to deal with horses.

"Man is so dependent upon the use of horses, and their value and safety is so much regulated by their good character and obedience to control, that it is necessary that their education and government should be dictated by reason and humanity.

"The low order of his understanding and his extreme strength make him more liable to become both vicious and uncontrollable. Unable to comprehend the object of restraint, confused and excited by bad treatment, he is prompted to get away at all hazards.

"The horse when frightened strives to avoid the cause of danger, whether real or imaginary. The more unexpected, the greater and more lasting the sense of danger, to a degree that may act so powerfully upon the nervous system as to fix an impression of fear which it is difficult to overcome. Resistance once excited, the difficulty of successful restraint is increased; the horse learning the possibility of resisting control, the disposition becomes so strong it at once becomes a habit to persist in, and all the great energies of the animal are brought into requisition. No matter what the habit, this peculiarity of persistence is evinced when once learned. A weak halter broken once or twice, the horse will strive to pull loose at all hazards, when and where hitched, the foot is pulled away when attempted to be shod, and the habit becomes confirmed. Some minor part of the harness or wagon breaking, fear stimulates resistance, and once freeing himself, the horse will ever afterwards strive to get away under like circumstances. The same may be said of a vicious disposition. A stallion once

encouraged to bite, and permitted to do so, leads to an eager disposition to bite ever afterwards.

"Blended with the skill of showing and teaching the horse a knowledge of what is required, is that of forcing obedience. This was at first done by the rudest of coercive measures.

"The effects of rude treatment are particularly noticeable on horses of a sensitive, ambitious character. Such either fret or are dangerous, when subject to the management of an impulsive, irritable groom, though extremely docile and safe to a careful, patient person.

"If horses be subjected to skillful and prudent management they will easily be made docile and controllable. On the other hand, subjected to rude, imprudent treatment, they are at once liable to become unreliable, hostile, and impulsive brutes.

"The generous reward of this skill should be an incentive to every one to acquire a correct knowledge of this duty. That there is great loss, and lamentable accidents caused almost daily in every neighborhood from the use of horses that are dangerously vicious and unmanageable, cannot be questioned. One horse will run away if given the least freedom. Another is liable to kick himself clear from the wagon should a strap dangle against the flanks, the breeching break, or anything unusual occur to excite his fears.

"One horse will balk. Another goes when and where he pleases. Another can scarcely be harnessed with safety. Another will kick if the rein touches the hip, or is caught under the tail. One will not stand while being mounted, or while getting into the carriage. Another will not back. Others are frightened, and sheer and jump at a stone, stump, or a white cow. One horse cannot be driven by a load of hay, a railroad track, etc., while to others an umbrella, buffalo robe, or even a bit of white paper are terrible objects of fear. There are but very few even of the horses that are considered well broken, that have not some habit that makes them unpleasant, or greatly lessons their usefulness and value.

"Well broken horses are a necessity demanded by the progress and intelligence of the age.

"They must be taught or shown that "man is master," that what he desires to do with them he can do.

"Nothing so completely subdues him as to convince him that he cannot do as he pleases, but that he must submit to the master. Having been thoroughly convinced that he is under

control, that his movements are entirely under control, he gives up.

"Never let the horse perceive that you are angry; try patiently to subdue the animal, but never by beating, and particularly by striking upon or about the head. He who first aspires to govern must first govern himself. Nothing is more fatal than outbursts of passion and rage. If you feel your temper getting the best of you, leave the task for the time, or you will only still more enrage, frighten, and bewilder the horse, and so render hopeless the effort to control the animal."

Having bitted the horse, and accustomed him to the bridle, it is a good time to fully subject him, if large, vicious, or nervous, to the subduing effects of turning.

As remarked, page 7, it may be undesirable for a small trainer to try to turn this kind of a horse with the halter and tail hold. But with the bridle and the girth, above described, the matter is very simple.

Through the rings of the bridle bit run a rope, knotted at the end so that it will not slip through. Pass the free end of the rope through the off loop of the girth; stand close by the near shoulder of the horse, and pull slightly on the rope till the horse turns his head in that direction, then draw his head close and hold it firmly to his side. He will immediately commence turning, pivoting on his fore feet. After two or three revolutions he should be given his head and then the special instructions in hand can be proceeded with.

In this manner the most obstreperous horse can generally, in one or two minutes, be compelled to lie down, and will then be as passive as if completely exhausted after an hour of the Rarey method of throwing.

"The operation must be repeated from ten to twenty times, or until the horse seems entirely disgusted with the controversy. This operation, if properly conducted, will have resulted in the obtaining control of the horse and in his willingness to be accommodating at least."

How to Throw a Horse.

The easiest and most effectual method of throwing a horse is to strap up the near fore-foot, put on a surcingle with a ring fastened to the top of it, tie a half-inch rope around his neck halterwise, placed up near the throat latch with the knot on the near-side of the face, pass the rope in the mouth and bring it along his neck on the off-side, then pass it through the ring in top of the surcingle on the back, standing off on the near-side about six or eight feet from the horse and opposite the near hind-leg, keeping the rope sufficiently tight to prevent him from disengaging it from his mouth. Pull carefully until he yields his head a little to the off-side, then give a sharp, strong continuous pull until the horse falls, which will occupy from one to five seconds. As he goes down, laying on the near-side, keep the rope tightened and he cannot get up. By repeating this a few times the horse will lie down from a very slight pull on the rope.

He can be thrown on either side by this process with perfect safety.

One great advantage of throwing cavalry horses will be found in this, that after a few lessons a slight turning movement of the horse to the right will induce him to quietly lie down: then by tying up one foot with the hobble he cannot rise. Thus, when a troop is dismounted to fight, the horses can be sheltered and left with a few men to guard them instead of one-fourth of the command being retaining away as horse-holders from the fighting line.

Another Plan,

and, in some respects, a better one, especially when it is desirable to tie the feet of the horse when down, is to take about a four-inch ring, sew to it two straps, one about three feet in length, two and a half inches wide, with a double-tongue buckle sewed to the end, and the other about one foot long, two and a half inches wide, with holes punched therein for the

buckle tongue. Then take a rope about twenty feet long and lap the center on the ring, strap up the near fore-leg of the horse and place on him a strong bridle with the check pieces tolerably short. Buckle the wide strap around the neck with the ring upon the breast, pass the rope between the fore-legs and out between the hind-legs, bringing the ends of the rope again forward on the out-side of each hind-leg above the gambrel, then, passing the ends on the out-side of the fore-legs, put them through the ring from the inside. Have an assistant take hold of each rope, prepared to pull as you say "ready," which will be as soon as you slip the rope below the gambrel joint on both legs. Pull the off-side bridle rein as he falls, which he will on the near-side. The person holding the near-side rope will keep it taut.

As you stand by the horse's shoulder, reach over and take the off-side rope—the person releasing it kneeling down and taking the horse's head between his knees and hold it with his nose upward. With the off-side rope take a half hitch over his off hind-foot and bring down his off fore-foot, take a half hitch on that and another one on the hind-foot, and wind this rope once around the one between the two feet.

This done, receive the near-side rope and make two half hitches over the near hind-foot. Take a strap already prepared, about three inches wide and about three feet long, with a D fastened to each end, and with an inch strap about a foot from each end and three feet in length, so prepared with a buckle as to be made shorter or longer as the case may require, to be used as a crouper, and tie the strap through the D to the off foot with the end of the rope.

Go behind the horse, take hold of the tail between the small strap and wide one, and pull the latter as far under the horse as possible, then roll him half over, pull the strap up to just beyond the point of the hips, pass the rope on the near-side through the D of the strap and, drawing the near-legs down close to the side, tie it.

Keep him on his back during this operation.

Be careful and observe the instructions closely, as a failure to do every portion of the work properly may cause you to be injured.

The operator must exercise judgment, governing himself by the location of the operation.

Special Instructions.

The sounds and sights which the military horse must be especially instructed to disregard, and the special faults of which he must be corrected as soon as possible, are:

1st.—The discharge of cannon and fire-arms, especially of the carbine and pistol, in close proximity to his ears.

2d.—Martial music, especially the sudden bursts of music from a band.

3d.—The flitting of an object suddenly before him, like a bundle of paper or rolling weeds borne by the wind across the road.

4th.—A mound of fresh earth, like a new grave.

5th.—A dummy man to represent one dead.

6th.—The movement of the saber or carbine about the horse's head when held in the hand when mounted, or when leading him.

7th.—Sudden change in the appearance of an object, like the flaunting of a blanket or the opening of an umbrella.

8th.—Balking and bucking and turning suddenly while mounting.

In the instruction of the horse to cure him of his fear of any of these sights, and to stop him from committing the faults referred to, resort must be had to the special treatment herein prescribed in each case, in connection with the turning movement.

Effects of Fear and How to Remove the Causes.

To the excitement and impulse of resistance, induced by

fear, may be attributed directly or indirectly nearly all bad habits of the horse. Repeated and continued success in controlling the horse teaches him confidence in the trainer or rider, and hence removes his fear of any sight or sound; while failure weakens and destroys the trainer's influence and increases the horse's disposition to resist and confirms his faults.

Beating a drum suddenly near a horse unaccustomed to the sound, will in almost every instance induce fear, and if successful in getting away from the noise and from the control of the rider, he will ever afterwards be frightened at the sound of a drum or any other loud rattling noise.

To reconcile the horse to this sound or to the report of firearms, or to a sudden apparition like opening of an umbrella, etc., first place him under control of the breaking bridle and adjust the long foot strap. Lead him towards an assistant who has a drum, and up to it if possible, so that he can smell and examine it. If he will not go, draw up his fore-leg and then direct the assistant to approach him gradually till the matter in hand is placed against his nose, rubbed against his neck and body. The assistant should then retire and repeat the same operation several times. When the horse submits to this quietly he should then be allowed to hear the drum faintly rattle at some distance, then closer and louder. If he becomes restive, the beating should cease till the instrument is brought to him that he may smell and touch it. This to be continued till it can be beaten all around him.

To accustom him to the report of the pistol, caps must be first fired at some distance, then small charges of powder, with the foot raised, till finally with foot on the ground he will permit it fired close on each side and over his back.

To a spirited horse the movement of the carbine and sabre in men's hands, when he is led or when mounted, is annoying. In one case he holds back, in the other he starts and jumps, while the sudden shaking of a blanket or overcoat, or opening of an umbrella for the first time is generally appalling. As

in case of the drum, these things must first be brought to him, and rubbed against his nose and body.

Then when his leg is raised take for instance the umbrella and open it slightly. If he starts and shows great fear it should be closed and again rubbed gently against his nose, the trainer all the time looking at him with a kind expression and speaking to him in an encouraging tone of voice. Then by degrees, after a few lessons, the umbrella can be spread open suddenly and passed all about his head without creating the least disquietude. So, too, the sabre and carbine may be flourished around his head without causing him to move aside or pull back.

Success in overcoming the too nervous sensibility of the horse, is attained by tact in preventing him from becoming frightened from any cause. Any inanimate object, as a newspaper or bundle of reeds, suddenly crossing the path of the horse, blown by the wind, usually produces such dismay as to put him beyond the control of the rider. To accustom him to such an object, have a bundle of papers, in an open space, to which attach a long string. First, take the horse as near the bundle as possible; then when no amount of encouragement will get him nearer, draw up his leg, and have an assistant drag the paper to him very slowly at first till he smells them and becomes indifferent; then, from behind some screen, drag them suddenly into view near him. If he becomes seriously frightened, draw up his leg till the bundle is brought up to him, that he may see what it is, etc Repeat this till all fear disappears.

To accustom the horse to a new-made grave or a dead person, two objects which many horses will not approach, and which cannot be made to approach him, have a mound a fresh earth thrown up and a dummy man prepared. Lead the horse to them, and when he cannot be encouraged to approach nearer, give him a *few turns around* and try again.

By these means and a little patience and encouragement

these objects should cease to create alarm after a lesson of twenty minutes.

The management of balking and bucking horses is after the same manner.

Horses Baulking.

"This is the most aggravating of all the habits to which the horse is subject; it tries the patience of man to the utmost; yet by patience and perseverance, with proper management, even this habit can be broken up. It is rarely that we find a baulky horse which is not a good one. They are usually very high spirited, quick of comprehension and of a strong nervous temperament. They resist because we have failed to make them understand what we require of them. Particularly is this the case with young animals. To whip under such circumstances only excites them to more determined resistance. On the first attempt of your horse to baulk dismount, pat him upon the neck, examine him carefully, first upon one side, then upon the other, speaking encouragingly to the animal while doing so; then mount and give him the rein; generally he will obey; if he refuses to do so dismount; then take him by the head and tail, reel him until he is almost ready to fall; this rarely fails. It takes that sullen spirit out of them and they start at the word.

"By repeating the same operations every day for a week, usually breaks up this most perplexing habit thoroughly and permanently."

To correct these faults requires patient adroitness as well as the most convincing power of control. With the breaking bridle give the horse a few short pulls right and left, sharp and lively; then after a brief rest tie the hair of the tail in a hard knot, and parting the hair above the knot, pass the bridle rein through, draw it short and tie in a half hitch. This will bring the head around towards the tail and compel the horse when he moves to travel in a circle. If the horse should not move fast enough urge him behind with the whip, regulating his efforts so as to keep him moving just fast enough not to fall down. He should be circled in this way from five to ten

minutes. As soon as the rein is untied from the tail seize the breaking bridle and pull up on it right and left five or six times. There should be an interval of a few hours between lessons, and the lessons should be repeated two or three times for several days. There need be no fear of training the mouth too hard, but *do not make it sore.* After this discipline bring the part of the bridle rope, that goes over the neck, up to the ears, step a little sideways and forward, and give a sharp pull. If the horse moves forward, loosen the rope and the bridle and caress him. Repeat this till he moves forward very readily when pulled upon.

Now put on the saddle and long foot strap, and mount him. If he shows any signs of resistance, either by balking or bucking, dismount and repeat the turning movement. Very soon all attempts to balk or buck will cease.

"Whatever may be the bad habit of your horse, it is a very good plan to give him a regular course of training, and by throwing a horse down and handling him just as you please while down, demonstrates to the understanding of the animal that it is worse than useless to try to resist control. It is the best way ever found to handle nervous horses. Handle gently while down and when they find they are not hurt, they get over their fear, and will allow you to do with them as you like anywhere."

"To teach a horse to lie down quickly you must lay him down a few times with the rope and strap, as described, page 18. When down treat your horse with great attention and kindness. After putting him down a few times in this way he will usually lie down in a short time by taking up one foot and holding it in your hand, asking him to lie down; he will soon come down. When he will come on his knees by taking his foot in your hand, stoop as if intending to take it up, saying, "Lie down, sir!" Then make him come down by a motion of the hand, and finally by simply telling him to lie down.

"In teaching a horse to lie down, be gentle, caress and reward him for lying down, and your horse, comprehending what you want and finding himself paid for compliance, will soon be as anxious to get down for the reward as you are to have him do so."

Fig. 1.

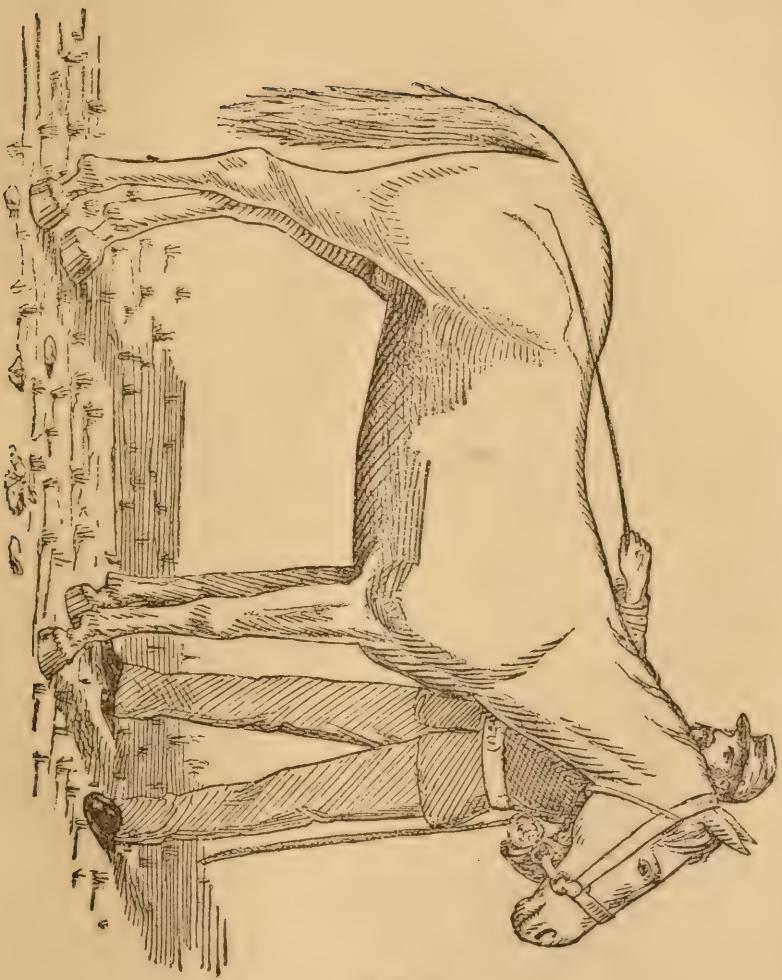

Fig. 2.

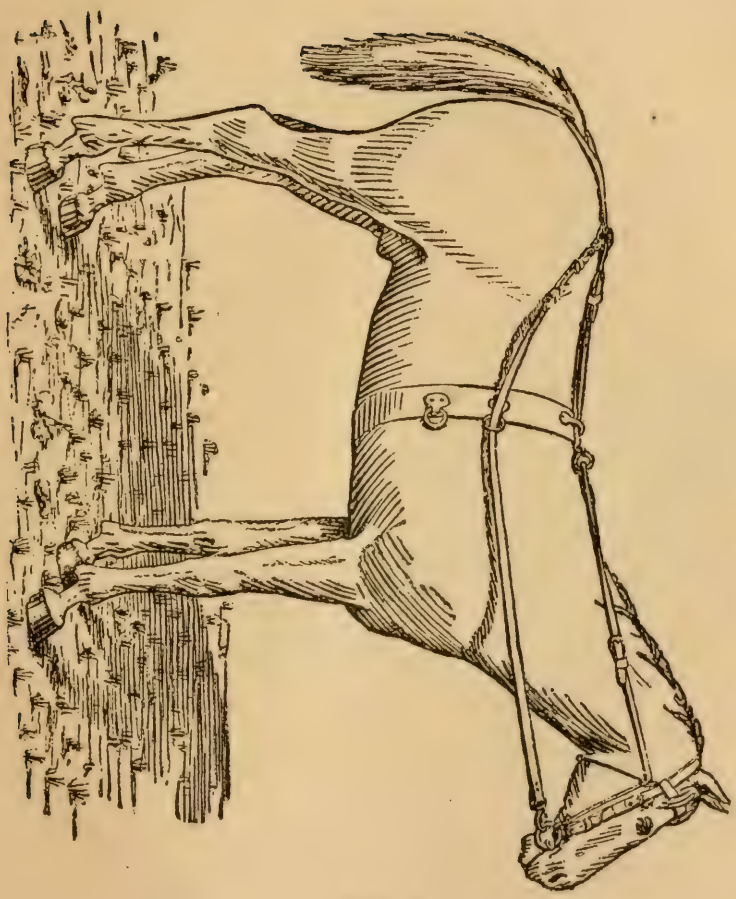

Fig. 3.

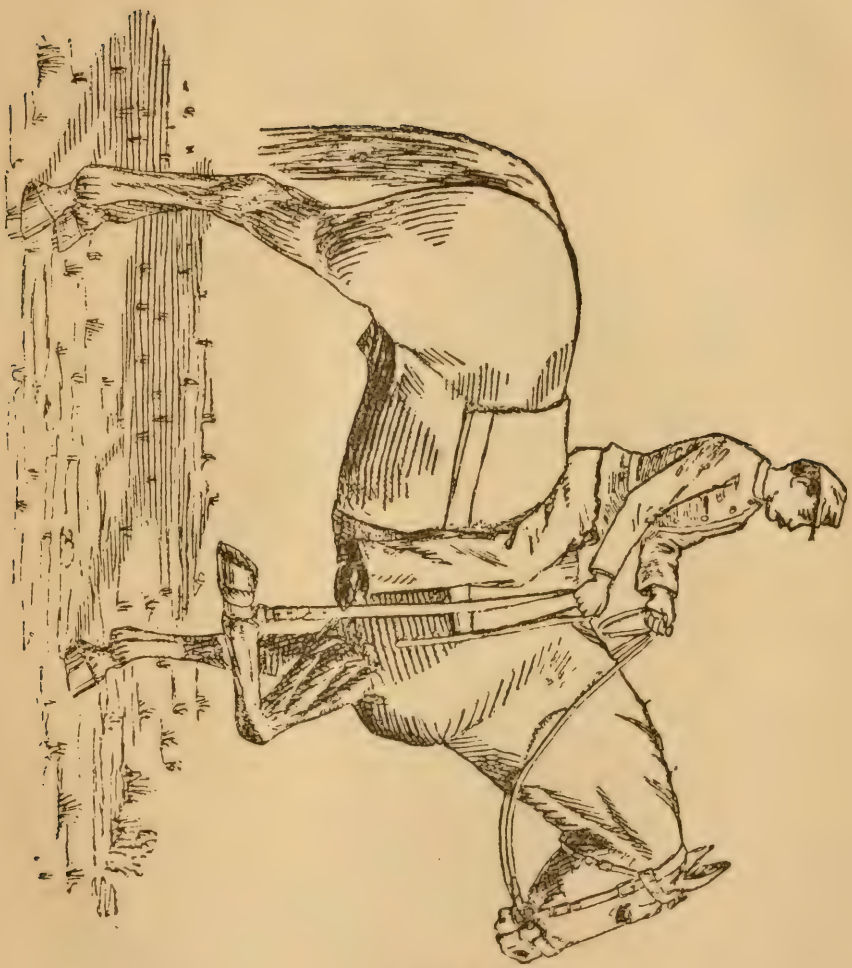

Fig. 4.

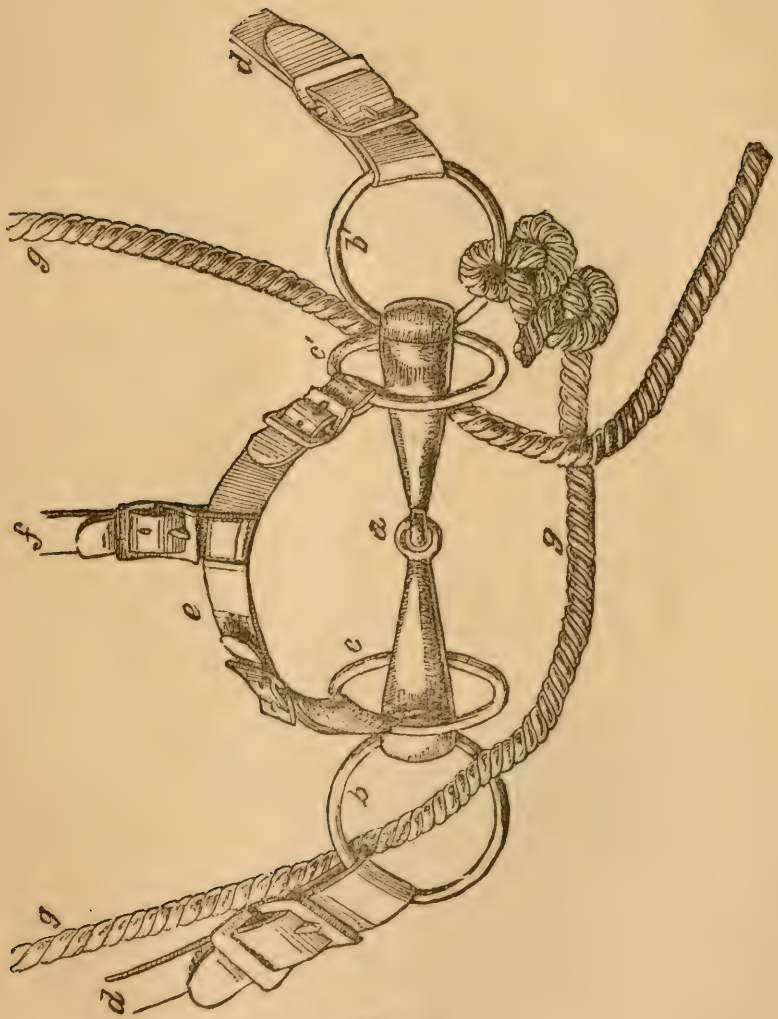

Fig 5.

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